

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01081 210454Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----010151 210648Z /23  
R 210440Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8352  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 1081

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS: PBOR MMOL MOPS LA VM TH  
SUBJECT: FRENCH REPORT OF VIETNAMESE MILITARY MOVES AT PAK LAY

REF: A VIENTIANE 1013, B STATE 158332, C USDAO BANGKOK  
090240Z JUL 77

1. CONFIRMATION OF FRENCH REPORT ON MEKONG RIVER CRAFT (REFTELS) WAS PASSED TO SOURCE JULY 19. HE WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE.
2. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD RELIABLE INFORMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF AN ARMS AND AMMUNITION DEPOT 30 KM EAST OF PAK LAY (QA5515), NEAR THE THAI FRONTIER OPPOSITE LOEI PROVINCE. HE SAID THIS DEPOT HAD BEEN BUILT UP BY THE VIETNAMESE SINCE MID-1975. MATERIAL CROSSED LAOS BY ROAD TO SAYABOURY TOWN AND WAS THEN MOVED BY BOAT TO THE DEPOT SITE. TWO BOATS WERE OPERATING, EACH MAKING TWO TRIPS PER MONTH. ON EACH TRIP EACH BOAT CARRIED BETWEEN FIFTEEN AND TWENTY TONS OF ARMS AND/OR AMMUNITION OR 80 VIETNAMESE TROOPS. MATERIAL WAS EXCLUSIVELY VIETNAMESE ARMY ORIGIN. ONE OF HIS INFORMANTS HAD ACTUALLY CONVOYED THE MATERIAL AND OBSERVED THAT IT INCLUDED DISMANTLED CANNON ON

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENTI 01081 210454Z

WHEELS, SOMETHING LIKE 75 MM, AND TWIN BARRELED ANTI-AIRCRAFT MACHINE GUNS AS WELL AS MANY ROCKET LAUNCHERS.

3. SOURCE SPECULATED THAT SINCE THERE WAS IN THE PAK LAY AREA NO LAO INTERNAL REBEL ACTIVITY OF THE TYPE REQUIRING TO BE DEALT WITH BY SUCH WEAPONS, THEY WERE PROBABLY INTENDED FOR USE AGAINST THAILAND, BUT HE

COULD NOT ESTIMATE WHERE OR WHEN THEY WOULD BE USED.

4. RECOMMENDATION: THAT DEPARTMENT REPEAT THIS  
MESSAGE TO CINCPAC, CIA, DIA.  
CORCORAN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, ARMS DEPOTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977VIENTI01081  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X4  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770259-0084  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770731/aaaabatx.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f9c6ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1784463  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH REPORT OF VIETNAMESE MILITARY MOVES AT PAK LAY  
**TAGS:** PBOR, MMOL, MOPS, LA, VM, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f9c6ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009